

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. It is not representing the majority of interests and opinion in my area. My guess is that they are hoping to change general opinion in my area.

Here is a copy of what I sent directly to their headquarters.

I am writing to protest your telling the local affiliate in my neighborhood, Channel 40, WGGB, Springfield, MA. that they must run this pseudo-documentary and pre-empt regular programming. In my opinion this is a direct political ad for the Bush campaign. I have heard it compared to Kitty Kelley's book or Fahrenheit 9/11. The comparison is ridiculous. In both those other productions there was no "masquerade" as anything other than biased political commentary that people had to pay to see or read. In placing this program in your programming line up for free to the public is a direct violation of the law. It is not news, it is unlikely to even be true and to pretend that it is newsworthy enough is just silly. I recall the recent flap over the airing of a Reagan film that was considered unflattering to the former President which caused CBS to pull the program. I recall Disney refusing to release Fahrenheit 9/11 because it was too political. I recall the flap over the CBS story in which they used apparently forged documents. I am confused about why the same standards are not to be applied to your company and this "documentary".
Respectfully, Johanna McKenna, Longmeadow, MA.

It is your role to make sure that the our political process is protected from this sort of maneuvering and pressure. Thank you for your consideration to this matter.